

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method of making risedronate sodium, substantially free of iron, comprising:
 refluxing a combination comprising risedronic acid, a sodium base, and an iron-reducing amount of EDTA in a liquid; and
 isolating risedronate sodium substantially free of iron from the combination.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the sodium base is sodium hydroxide.
3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the sodium base in the combination is of an amount such that the ratio of the number of moles of sodium base to the number of moles of risedronic acid in the combination is between about 1:0.8 and about 1:1.2.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the ratio of moles of sodium base to moles of risedronic acid is between about 1:1 and about 1:1.2.
5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the iron-reducing amount of EDTA is between about 5% and about 50% of the risedronic acid on a dry per-weight basis.
6. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the iron-reducing amount of EDTA is between about 5% and about 20% of the risedronic acid on a dry per-weight basis.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the liquid is selected from the group consisting of water, a lower alkanol, and a mixture of a lower alkanol and water.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the liquid is about 40% to about 60%, v/v, of a lower alkanol in water.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the liquid is about 50%, v/v, of a lower alkanol in water.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the combination is refluxed until the pH is between about 4 and about 5.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the combination is refluxed until the pH is between about 4.2 and about 4.7.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein during the refluxing step, the combination is subjected to shear forces.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein during the refluxing step, the combination is subjected to mechanical agitation.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising cooling the refluxed combination after the refluxing step.

15. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the refluxed combination is cooled to a temperature between about 0° C and about 30° C.

16. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the amount of metal in the isolated risedronate sodium is at least about 30% to about 50% lower than the amount of metal in risedronate sodium made by the method of claim 1 without a metal-reducing amount of EDTA.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the liquid is a mixture of ethanol and water, and the obtained ~~risendronate~~ risedronate sodium is crystalline Form B.

18-24. (Canceled)